

BOARD MEETINGS:  
3rd Thursday, 6:30 PM

GENERAL MEETINGS:  
3rd Thursday, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church  
4769 West Babcock, Bozeman

#### OUR PURPOSE:

Shall be to perpetuate the common sense use and enjoyment of horses in the back country and assist the various government agencies in their maintenance and management of the resource and to educate, encourage and solicit active participation by various members of the general public in the wise and sustaining use of horses, commensurate with our heritage and the back country resource.

#### 2019 OFFICERS, 1 YEAR

##### PRESIDENT

Henry Glenn ... 578-2084  
sedancowboy@outlook.com

##### VICE PRESIDENT

Chris Nygren ... 546-7550  
chrisnygren@berglawfirm.com

##### TREASURER

Carmen Matzick ... 600-1379

##### SECRETARY

Kathy VanDyke ... 586-2440

#### DIRECTORS

##### ONE YEAR TERM

Tamara Erickson ... 451-8186  
Marianne Meyer ... 585-4780  
Rod Wilson ... 539-1338

##### TWO YEAR TERM

Carl Blaskovich ... 388-4640  
Vern Campbell ... 570-6117  
Lew Goodpasture ... 575-639-9091

#### STATE BOARD MEMBERS

Rich Inman (1 year) ... 388-1564  
Dan Marsh (2 year) ... 587-7578  
Henry Glenn (Alternate) ... 578-2084

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Brant Robey... 222-5971  
pbrantr@gmail.com

#### BCH WEB MASTER

Dan Marsh ... 587-7578  
webmaster@bchmt.org  
http://gvbch.bchmt.org

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

BUFFALO FORK CABIN : AUGUST 5-12

Call Henry for more information, 578-2084

WEDNESDAY TRAILS DAYS : AUGUST 7, 14, 21, 28

call Larry Thomas at 586-6878

BOARD MEETING : AUGUST 15, 630PM

Springhill Church

GENERAL MEETING : AUGUST 15, 7:00 PM

Springhill Church

HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR : AUGUST 22, 4:00-8:00 PM

Hardaway Veterinary Hospital, 5650 Jackrabbit Ln, Belgrade

For more information visit <http://www.hardawayvet.com>

CHALLENGE AT CHALLENGE : AUGUST 22-25

Challenge Cabin, Skyland Rd, Essex

contact: Jonah Libsack, 756-6595

Register by August 1: [www.bchmt.org](http://www.bchmt.org)

HELLROARING CABIN : SEPTEMBER 2-9 [TENTATIVE]



#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Back Country Horsemen,

Summer is finally here and the trails are dry so get out there and ride. Larry is in full swing with the trail crew so call him for updates and schedule.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Dan Potter and Carmen for a excellent and safe Poker Ride. I am thankful for the hard work they put into the planning and it showed at the Poker Ride. I also want to thank each and everyone who worked on the Poker Ride for their dedication to our club. Without you it would not be possible.

Late notice, but we are going into the A-B Wilderness for our annual cabin maintenance trip on Aug 5-12. Call me if you are interested. Please plan on being at the Spanish Creek ride and camp out on Sept 13-15. We will have BBQ and music.

May God Bless the Trails you Ride,

—Henry

## BOARD & GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 18

Roll Call: Chris Nygren, Carmen Matzick, Rich Inman, Lew Goodpasture, Dan Porter, Carl Blaskovich, Vern Campbell, Marianne Meyer, Rod Wilson, Tamara Erickson, Dan Marsh, John Mutter, Stacy Boswell; Chris stood proxy for Henry Glenn.

**CALLED TO ORDER BY CHRIS NYGREN.**

**MINUTES OF JUNE 2019 MEETING**

Rich moved to approve the minutes as written; Carl seconded; the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Carmen reported on the club's checking and savings accounts. Carl moved to approve the report; Vern seconded; the motion carried.

Per Marianne, we have five new members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**EQUINE WELLNESS FAIR**

Stacy announced that Hardaway Vet Clinic is holding an equine wellness fair with proceeds going to Heroes and Horses. It will be held on August 22 from 4:00-8:00 pm. GVBCH will have a booth there with membership forms, photos and information. It was suggested to request volunteers from among the members rather than asking that the board members "man" the booth.

**NEWSLETTER**

It was noted that Brant Robey does a great job. Rich moved to give her a token of our appreciation; Tamara seconded; the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Poker Ride:** Receipts were \$5,347.24 (the silent auction raised \$1,195 and the "50/50 pot" raised \$166). Net income after expenses was \$3,350.81.

**Slough Creek and Buffalo Fork cabins:** These projects will be done one-after-the-other with a tentative departure date of August 5 and lasting for one week (the departure date may change to Aug. 12)

Marianne moved to adjourn the meeting, Rich seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Kathy VanDyke

**PROGRAM**

Danielle Coyler gave a "Be Bear Aware" demonstration then let the members practice with inert bear spray cans.

**CALL TO ORDER BY Chris Nygren**

**MINUTES**

John Mutter moved to accept the June 2019 minutes as written, Tamara seconded, and the motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Carmen reported on the club's checking and savings accounts. Janice moved to accept the report, Vern seconded, and the motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Poker Ride:** Carmen reported on Poker Ride details.

**August BBQ:** This event has been cancelled. There will be a GVBCH get-together Sept. 13-14 at the Spanish Creek cabin

**Slough Creek and Buffalo Fork cabins:** These trips will run consecutively beginning on August 5 (or possibly August 12). Please call Henry if you're interested in taking part.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Equine wellness fair:** Stacy Boswell announced that Hardaway Vet Clinic is holding an equine wellness fair with proceeds going to Heroes and Horses. It will be held on August 22 from 4:00-8:00 pm. GVBCH will have a booth there with membership forms, photos and information.

**Tack/saddle sale:** Tamara Erickson announced that Dale Moore will be selling saddles, tack, pack equipment, horses and mules on July 26-27. Call Dale Moore at 388-1387 for more information.

**Programs:** Janice asked for program suggestions.

Janice moved to adjourn the meeting, John seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

—Submitted by Kathy VanDyke



When your vet calls to tell you that she has 4 packed rectal sleeves for the Poker Ride and you think, "What the heck is she talking about....packed rectal sleeves?" Ready for all Pop Stops on the Poker Ride - first aid kits from Hardaway Veterinary Hospital. Check!

## POKER RIDE CLEARING

Poker Ride clearing day...we had 9 in our crew. The day was lovely, the views were stunning and the clearing was rather easy...a few downers, a few leaners, some drainage work with a water bar and minimal lopping. We're ready! John Mutter, Henry Glenn, Molly Gerstung Glenn, Dan Marsh, Catherine Nelson, Lew Goodpasture and nephew Remington, Chris Nygren and Janice R. Cartwright



## POKER RIDE—JULY 6

The 2019 GVBCH Poker Ride on July 6th came off without a hitch thanks to the efforts of over 30 members of our chapter. The weather was perfect, the trail was clear, and the flies were mostly absent. Despite a light turnout I think everyone had a great time and we made money to support our efforts at assisting the Forest Service in maintaining and managing the resource, our back country public lands and wilderness. Best of all, no riders got lost on the trail this year.. that we know of!

It was a total group effort with over 60% of GVBCH members participating, but special thanks goes to Rich Inmann for arranging the food purchase, inventorying the chapter trailer, and securing a large number of donations. Special thanks also to Henry and Janice for clearing, laying out and marking the trail with their crews, and it goes without saying that we couldn't have done it without the work that Dan Marsh did updating the poster and trail map, the printing, prize coordination and master of ceremonies the day of the ride. Fortunately no major accidents or injuries occurred but we are also thankful to have had an onsite veterinarian, Stacie Boswell from Hardaway Vet present at base camp for the event.

Thank you to everyone who helped to make the 32nd Annual GVBCH Poker ride a success!! Only a dedicated group like ours could pull it off and make it look easy. — Dan Porter





## WEDNESDAY TRAILS DAYS—JULY 10

On July 10th, Larry Thomas led the crew of Dan Marsh, Mark DeOpsomer, Connie LeHocky, Wayne Frederickson and guest, Tim Butler toward the Spanish Lakes. We started on the #407 trail and turned on the #411 trail toward Spanish Lakes. Dan was packing in the tools and had a heck of a time with one crosscut saw that kept getting hooked on brush and flinging out of the box. One such time, the saw flung his slicker out into the creek on its way out. It washed down the creek and came to rest on some logs. We got in about 7.5 miles when we hit a snow bank about 1/2 mile from the Lakes that was too deep to cross. We stopped there and had lunch and spotted some real nice goat rocks! Some of the crew hadn't been in to Dubious Lake so we cut a free more trees and made our way into the Lake. We met a hiker who had been up skiing on the Blaze and was camped at the lake. On the way back the slicker was still at the same spot so Dan and Tim forged the creek to recover the slicker. We all headed back and enjoyed a cold drink at the trail head and headed home. In all we cut out around 8 logs and trimmed a lot of brush. We also got rid of a leaner that has plagued us for a number of years that had got low enough to become a hazard. It looked like it was going to be a tough cut with multiple binds but it opened up like a Christmas present and came out of there with two easy cuts. —Dan Marsh



LITTLE BEAR FUN RIDE & 407 TRAIL CLEARING  
JULY 13 & JULY 20

Six BCH members accompanied Lain Kay and her guests on a ride from Lain's home up thru state and private lands in the Gallatin between Wilson Creek and Little Bear Creek.

Most of the ride was on old logging roads through areas previously burned in the Purdy Fire years ago. A large elk herd was sighted at one point along the trail, wild flowers were in evidence, and we almost made it back to the trucks before a thunderstorm drenched us...almost. — Dan Porter



On Saturday, July 20th, five GVBCH members packed loppers in on the 407 trail, stopping four separate times to improve visibility and make the trail safer for all users by trimming back new and overhanging vegetation to the 8' wide by 10' high specifications. We stopped to eat lunch along Spanish Creek and then continued on as far as the Hermit Lake "Y" junction with Trail # 411 to the Spanish Lakes.

We cleared alders and willows from the three creek crossings in that area to make them safer as well, and returned to the trailhead around 5pm. Lew Goodpasture's pack mule did a great job and we plan to use her on future Saturday trail work days.

Thank you Lew, Mark Deopsomer, Tom Lamb, and Marianne Meyer for a great ride/work day! — Dan Porter

## WEDNESDAY TRAILS DAYS—JULY 17

On July 17th Rich Inman led the rather large Wednesday crew on the Twin Cabin to Elkhorn trail. Larry Thomas stayed home and worked his team of Harry and Harriet getting his hay cut. In addition to Rich, we had Dan Marsh, John Mutter, Dan Porter, Lew Goodpasture, Kenji Aoki, Connie LeHocky, Vern Campbell, Wayne Frederickson and Bruce May. We had to ferry three rigs to the Red Cliff campground where the Elkhorn trail starts from the Twin Cabin trailhead and Dan brought back the drivers after dropping of two trailers which allowed us to bring back 8 horses and people when we got to Red Cliff. It was real wet from the rain the day before so the horses were slipping and sliding up the climb to the top of the ridge. In all we cut out 21 trees and put in 8 water diversions. More water diversions are needed as the trail does not do a good job of following the grade but runs straight up the ridge. While we were going through the open meadows we noticed a lot of fresh digging and then saw a big Grizzly track in the middle of the trail! We never did see the bear but he couldn't have been very far away. In all it was a beautiful day and was nice and cool to work in.





## WEDNESDAY TRAILS DAYS—JULY 24

On July 24, the Wednesday Trail Crew led by Rich Inman rode in on Little Hellroaring #400 to the Indian Ridge trail #444 for a ten mile round trip. The rest of the crew consisted of Dan Marsh, Lew Goodpasture, Bruce May, Connie LeHocky, Wayne Frederickson and Kenji Aoki. The Ridge Trail is at 8680 feet and we started around 6000 feet so the horses got a good workout. We cut out about 14 trees and swatted over a hundred horse flies. The weather looked like it could rain but we didn't get any moisture and were out of there by three in the afternoon. We had refreshments and thought we would be home early but as we were heading north on the highway we heard a loud BANG and pieces of rubber went flying by the windows. Connie pulled up behind us with her trailer but there was no shoulder where we were so we got the horses out of the trailer and found a driveway down the road to pull into. We got the tire changed and waited for a break in the traffic and got both trailers back on the road.



## SATURDAY TRAIL TRIMMING—JULY 27

On Saturday July 27th the Saturday Trail Trimming crew consisting of Lew Goodpasture, Tamara Erickson, Laurie Connelly and myself rode in to trim the High Lakes Trail which is the southern end of Trail 401. We passed or met a lot of hikers and backpackers, many of which were carrying fishing rods. The wildflowers were in full bloom and incredible. We rode up the 401 approximately 1 mile until we encountered a large tree across the trail. We stopped there and trimmed above and below it, ate lunch, and then split up. Lew and Laurie took the pack mule back down to the trail 411 junction, parked their mounts, and worked back up trimming the 401. Tamara and I led our mounts down trimming as we went and meeting Lew and Laurie in the middle. Recent water bar maintenance was evident on the 407 but the switch backs on the 401 are in need of some tread rehabilitation. It was a great day to be in the mountains and plans are to go every Saturday. Call Lew or Dan if you would like to go on some nice rides and help out too. —Dan Porter

Laurie Connelly in action, Before & After



**MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

While clearing trails and providing pack support are always at the top of our summer project lists, consider expanding your volunteerism to include becoming an “educator”! Teaching something you are passionate about to others can be very rewarding.

A great teacher has his own love of learning and inspires students with his passion for education and for the course material. We all love horses/mules and the back country so please encourage members to “pass it on”!

We continue to expand and promote our Youth Program, but what about the adults in your community? Perhaps this winter contact some of your local groups such as Lions Club, Rotary, Soroptimists, Kiwanis, etc. and volunteer as a guest speaker?

Or, contact your local schools and perhaps do a classroom presentation on the back country. Many teachers love to bring in the public to expose their students to activities in their community.

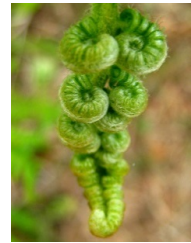


**Backcountry Flora**

**Poisonous to Equine**

***Bracken fern (Pteridium aquilinum)***

*Also known as: brake fern, eagle fern and also known as a fiddlehead fern*



**Horsemen Favorites**

***Indian Paintbrush***



**Backcountry Fauna**

Chipmunks are one of Montana's cutest and most visible animals. Of the sixteen species of Western Chipmunk, Montana is home to four of them: the Yellow-pine Chipmunk, the Least Chipmunk the Red-tailed Chipmunk and the Uinta Chipmunk. (Shown clockwise L to R)



**JUST FOR FUN**

**Defensive Horsemanship**

We highly recommend against this!



**GVBCH IS INDEBTED TO THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES & MEMBERS  
WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THE SUCCESS OF OUR 2018 POKER RIDE:**

Ace Hardware West  
Ace Hardware Belgrade  
Ag Depot  
B & B Plumbing  
Bank of Bozeman  
Beth Merrick  
Big Sky RV  
Carmen Matzick  
Castle Custom Leather  
Chalet Market  
City Brew  
Cuppa Jo on the Go

Dan Marsh/ Alice Pilgeram  
Double Diamond Halter  
Four Corner's Saddlery  
Gene Houghtaling  
Hardaway Veterinary Clinic  
Harrington's Pepsi-Cola  
Jan Elpel  
Jehnet Carlson  
Madison River Propane  
Marianne Meyer  
Mike Haugan  
Montana Canvas

Montana Horse Sense  
Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply  
Plonk  
Rich Inman  
Rikki's Furniture Gallery  
Rocky Mountain Hat Company  
Rocky Mountain Supply  
Sorenson Vet Hospital  
The Septic Service  
Tire World  
Town and Country



Clearing Gallatin Trails since 1985

PO Box 3232  
BOZEMAN, MT 59772 - 3232